

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

AUGUST 20, 2013

**COUNTYWIDE CHILD CARE RATING SYSTEM**

The County of Los Angeles, through its Office of Child Care, continues to recognize the importance of high quality early care accessible to all families that nurtures children's healthy growth and early learning, fosters social and emotional well-being, and strengthens communities.

Some parents unknowingly utilize licensed child care homes or day care centers that provide substandard care due to a lack of a standard Countywide process to effectively rate such services.

The Office of Child Care currently operates two different child care quality rating systems to provide parents with information on the quality of individual child care settings -- and distinguish programs that meet higher standards and provide benchmarks to determine if the quality of care improves over time.

However, both systems are so small in scope that they reach less than 5% of the current child care homes or day care centers in Los Angeles County (approximately 500 providers out of approximately 11,000 in the County). In addition, neither system has achieved much public awareness to truly impact or inform parental decisions.

As evidenced by the County's restaurant and nursing home grading systems which my office initiated, widespread rating programs establish consistent standards and make ratings and inspection reports readily available to the public. In addition, these programs incentivize facilities to establish higher quality standards and better management practices to ensure ongoing compliance.

The County should assess the feasibility of developing a Countywide rating system to include all licensed child care homes or day care centers upon which parents could rely for an accurate assessment of the facilities entrusted with the care of their children.

- M O R E -

**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office, in collaboration with the Office of Child Care in the Service Integration Branch, to report back in 60 days on the feasibility (including scope, parameters, structure, timing and cost) of developing a Countywide quality rating program similar to the restaurant and nursing home grading system in place.

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MDA:mvb

*s/2013motions/Countywide Child Care Rating System*